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The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment afforded during a telephone interview conducted on August 29, 2006. The following is a statement summarizing the interview.

It was explained at the interview that the invention concerns the compositing of a plurality of print jobs, even though each individual print job might have originated from different applications. For example, in the context of one representative embodiment of the invention described in the specification, print jobs might originate from different applications such as Microsoft® Word® or from Microsoft® Excel®.

It is a further aspect of the invention that there is a display of a preview image based on the plurality of print jobs from the multiple applications. In particular, there is a display of a preview image in accordance with layout information specified via a user interface of a printer driver, thereby indicating that the respective page layouts of the plurality of print jobs are maintained.

By virtue of the foregoing arrangement, there is an advantageous effect relative to conventional "print preview" functionality found in the prior art. Conventional "print preview" functionality shows print data drawn on the basis of page settings in each individual application. As a consequence, the layout information specified for a print driver is not reflected in such a print preview, and it is not possible for the user to visualize the output of a print job as it actually will be printed. On the contrary, according to the invention, since there is a display of a preview image in accordance with respective layout

information specified via a user interface of a print driver, it is possible for a user to visualize his print job as it actually will be outputted by the printer. This advantageous effect is furthermore achieved even though print jobs are composited into a single composed job, and even though the print jobs might originate from multiple different application.

During the interview, it was agreed to amend the claims so as to specify the capability of accepting drawing data from multiple different applications. This change has been effected by the above noted amendments to the claims.

The interview further emphasized that the PostScript® file of Goertz does not correspond to the claimed intermediate code format data, for the reason that the PostScript® data of Goertz is sent to the printer and therefore corresponds to actual print data. See, for example, claims like dependent Claim 6 which specify formation of print data to be transmitted to the printing apparatus on the basis of the claimed intermediate code format data. It was agreed to amend the claims along the lines of the disclosure at page 10 of the specification, so as to specify that the claimed intermediate code format data is different from the print data and from the drawing data. This change has also been made, as noted above.

Formal amendments have also been made, so as to improve internal consistency and antecedence within the claims. These amendments include changes that should have been made in the previous amendment, but through oversight were not.

The applied art and the art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest the claimed arrangements, and it is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw all rejections and to pass the subject application to issue.

Claims 33 to 44, which had been withdrawn pursuant to the revised election requirement entered by the Office Action dated December 9, 2005, have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without prejudice to Applicants' right to re-present these claims in a later-filed divisional application.

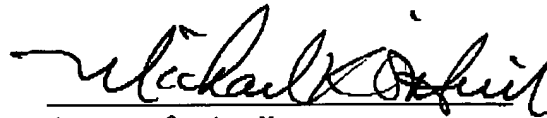
Finally, it is noted that page 22 of the Amendment filed on June 28, 2006, states that the present invention spools the intermediate code format data and the print setting information "separately from each other". The notion that the intermediate code format data and the print setting information are spooled "separately from each other" is not found explicitly in the claims, and the Applicants therefore repudiate this statement. Accordingly, the USPTO and the public at large should not rely on this statement at page 22 of the prior amendment, in determining the scope, content, validity, allowability or any other aspect of the claimed invention, and should instead rely on the actual claim language, the specification and the prior art, as provided for in case-law interpretation of the patent statute.

There being no other matters to discuss, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

AUG 31 2006

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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